

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown herein below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a decorative cover for a flower pot wherein a customer wraps or forms a sheet of material about the flower pot and secures the sheet in a position extending about the flower pot to provide the decorative cover, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one sheet of material having an upper surface and a lower surface, the sheet of material having a graphic image disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the upper and lower surfaces of the sheet of material, the graphic image being selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score~~ and combinations thereof; and

selling and delivering the at least one sheet of material to a customer for use by the customer in wrapping the sheet of material about a flower pot and securing the sheet of material about the flower pot to provide a decorative cover having the graphic image prominently displayed thereon.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of paper, polymeric film, foil, **cloth**, combinations thereof and laminations thereof.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material has a thickness in range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is provided with a bonding material disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the upper and lower surfaces thereof for securing the sheet of material to the flower pot.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is further provided with a sheet extension.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the sheet extension is detachably connected to the sheet of material via a detaching element.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing at least one sheet of material, a plurality of sheets of material are provided, and the plurality of sheets of material are formed into a roll of material.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing at least one sheet of material, a plurality of sheets of material are provided, and the plurality of sheets of material are formed into a pad of sheets of material.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a decorative cover for a floral grouping wherein a customer wraps a sheet of material about the floral grouping and secures the sheet of material about the floral grouping to provide the decorative cover, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one sheet of material having an upper surface and a lower surface, the sheet of material having a graphic image disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the upper and lower surfaces of the sheet of material, the graphic image being selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score~~ and combinations thereof; and

selling and delivering the at least one sheet of material to a customer for use by the customer in wrapping the sheet of material about a floral grouping and securing the sheet of material about the floral grouping to provide a decorative cover having the graphic image prominently displayed thereon.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of paper, polymeric film, foil, cloth, combinations thereof and laminations thereof.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material has a thickness in range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is provided with a bonding material disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the upper and lower surfaces thereof for securing the sheet of material in a position about the floral grouping.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein, in the step of providing at least one sheet of material, a plurality of sheets of material are provided, and the plurality of sheets of material are formed into a roll of material.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein, in the step of providing at least one sheet of material, a plurality of sheets of material are provided, and the plurality of sheets of material are formed into a pad of sheets of material.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a decorative cover for a flower pot wherein a customer wraps or forms a sheet of material about the flower pot and secures the sheet in a position extending about the flower pot to provide the decorative cover, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one sheet of material having an upper surface and a lower surface, the sheet of material having a graphic image disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the upper and lower surfaces of the sheet of material, the graphic image being selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score~~ and combinations thereof;

selling and delivering the at least one sheet of material to a customer;
and
wherein the customer wraps the sheet of material about a flower pot and
secures the sheet of material about the flower pot to provide a
decorative cover having the graphic image prominently displayed
thereon.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of paper, polymeric film, foil, cloth, combinations thereof and laminations thereof.

17. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material has a thickness in range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is provided with a bonding material disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the upper and lower surfaces thereof for securing the sheet of material to the flower pot.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is further provided with a sheet extension.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the sheet extension is detachably connected to the sheet of material via a detaching element.

21. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein, in the step of providing at least one sheet of material, a plurality of sheets of material are provided, and the plurality of sheets of material are formed into a roll of material.

22. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein, in the step of providing at least one sheet of material, a plurality of sheets of material are provided, and the plurality of sheets of material are formed into a pad of sheets of material.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a decorative cover for a floral grouping wherein a customer wraps a sheet of polymeric material about the floral grouping and secures the sheet about the floral grouping to provide the decorative cover, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one sheet of material having an upper surface and a lower surface, the sheet of material having a graphic image

disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the upper and lower surfaces of the sheet of material, the graphic image being selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score~~ and combinations thereof;

selling and delivering the at least one sheet of polymeric material to a customer; and

wherein the customer wraps the sheet of polymeric material about a floral grouping and secures the sheet of polymeric material about the floral grouping to provide a decorative cover having the graphic image prominently displayed thereon.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of paper, polymeric film, foil, **cloth**, combinations thereof and laminations thereof.

25. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material has a thickness in range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

26. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein, in the step of providing the sheet of material, the sheet of material is provided with a bonding material disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the upper and lower surfaces thereof for securing the sheet of material in a position about the floral grouping.

27. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein, in the step of providing at least one sheet of material, a plurality of sheets of material are provided, and the plurality of sheets of material are formed into a roll of material.

28. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein, in the step of providing at least one sheet of material, a plurality of sheets of material are provided, and the plurality of sheets of material are formed into a pad of sheets of material.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a decorative covering for a flower pot, comprising the steps of:

providing a sleeve formed of a rigid or semi-rigid material and having an upper end, a lower end, and a retaining space, the sleeve having a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the graphic image is visible on at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of the sleeve, the sleeve having an upper portion and a lower portion wherein the upper portion is detachable from the

lower portion via a detaching element, wherein the graphic image is selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score~~, and combinations thereof;

providing a flower pot having a lower end and an outer peripheral surface, the flower pot having a floral grouping disposed therein;

disposing the flower pot in the retaining space of the sleeve such that at least a portion of the lower portion of the sleeve is substantially adjacent to and surrounds the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and the upper portion of the sleeve surrounds at least a portion of the floral grouping disposed in the flower pot, thereby forming the decorative covering wherein the graphic image is prominently displayed on the decorative covering.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of removing the upper portion of the sleeve from the lower portion of the sleeve via the detaching element, wherein the lower portion of the sleeve remains disposed about the flower pot as the decorative covering.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30 wherein, in the step of providing the sleeve, the lower portion of the sleeve further comprises a base portion and a skirt portion, and upon removal of the upper portion of the sleeve therefrom, the lower portion of the sleeve forms the decorative covering disposed about the flower pot, wherein the base portion of the lower portion of the sleeve is substantially adjacent to and surrounds the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and the skirt portion of the lower portion of the sleeve extends above the flower pot and surrounds at least a portion of the floral grouping disposed in the flower pot.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a decorative covering for a flower pot, comprising the steps of:

providing a sleeve formed of a rigid or semi-rigid material and having an upper end, a lower end, and a retaining space, the sleeve having a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the graphic image is visible on at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of the sleeve, wherein the graphic image is selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score~~, and combinations thereof;

providing a flower pot having a lower end and an outer peripheral surface, the flower pot having a floral grouping disposed therein; disposing the flower pot in the retaining space of the sleeve such that at least a portion of the sleeve is substantially adjacent to and surrounds the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot, thereby forming the decorative covering wherein the graphic image is prominently displayed on the decorative covering.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32 wherein, in the step of providing the sleeve, the sleeve further comprises a base portion and a skirt portion, wherein the base portion of the lower portion of the sleeve is substantially adjacent to and surrounds the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and the skirt portion of the lower portion of the sleeve extends above the flower pot and surrounds at least a portion of the floral grouping disposed in the flower pot.

34. (Currently Amended) A decorative covering for a flower pot, comprising: a sleeve formed of a rigid or semi-rigid material and having an upper end, a lower end, and a retaining space, the sleeve having a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the graphic image is visible on at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of the sleeve, wherein the graphic image is selected from

the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score,~~ and combinations thereof, wherein the retaining space of the sleeve is sized to hold a flower pot such that at least a portion of the sleeve is substantially adjacent to and surrounds an outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and the graphic image is prominently displayed on the sleeve when the flower pot is disposed in the inner retaining space of the sleeve.

35. (Original) The decorative covering of claim 34 wherein the sleeve further comprises a base portion and a skirt portion, wherein the base portion of the lower portion of the sleeve is substantially adjacent to and surrounds the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and the skirt portion of the lower portion of the sleeve extends above the flower pot and surrounds at least a portion of the floral grouping disposed in the flower pot.

36. (Currently Amended) A decorative covering for a flower pot, comprising:
a sleeve formed of a rigid or semi-rigid material and having an upper end, a lower end, and a retaining space, the sleeve having a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the

graphic image is visible on at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of the sleeve, the sleeve having an upper portion and a lower portion wherein the upper portion is detachable from the lower portion via a detaching element, wherein the graphic image is selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score~~, and combinations thereof, wherein the retaining space of the sleeve is sized to hold a flower pot such that at least a portion of the lower portion of the sleeve is substantially adjacent to and surrounds an outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and the upper portion of the sleeve surrounds at least a portion of a floral grouping disposed in the flower pot and the graphic image is prominently displayed on the sleeve when the flower pot is disposed in the inner retaining space of the sleeve.

37. (Original) The decorative covering of claim 36 wherein the lower portion of the sleeve further comprises a base portion and a skirt portion, and upon removal of the upper portion of the sleeve therefrom, the lower portion of the sleeve forms the decorative covering disposed about the flower pot, wherein the base portion of the lower portion of the sleeve is substantially adjacent to

and surrounds the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and the skirt portion of the lower portion of the sleeve extends above the flower pot and surrounds at least a portion of the floral grouping disposed in the flower pot.

38. (Currently Amended) A flower pot cover comprising:

a base portion constructed of a thermoplastic material or a thermoset material, the base portion defining a receiving space which is sized and shaped so as to substantially encompass and surround an outer surface of a flower pot, the base portion having an upper end, a lower end, and a sidewall extending between the upper end and the lower end, the sidewall being substantially devoid of overlapping folds and having a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the graphic image is visible on at least a portion of the sidewall of the flower pot cover, wherein the graphic image is selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score,~~ and combinations thereof.

39. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38, wherein the base portion further comprises a closed bottom.

40. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38, wherein the base portion further comprises an open bottom.

41. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38, wherein the base portion further comprises a partially closed bottom wherein at least one open area is formed in the bottom.

42. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38, further comprising a skirt extending from the sidewall of the base portion.

43. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 42 wherein the skirt is connected to at least a portion of the sidewall of the base portion.

44. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38, further comprising a sleeve portion extending above at least a portion of the base portion.

45. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 44, wherein the sleeve portion has an open upper end.

46. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 44, wherein the sleeve portion extends about at least a portion of a floral grouping when the floral grouping is disposed within the flower pot.

47. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 44, wherein the sleeve portion has a closed upper end.

48. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 44, wherein the sleeve portion is detachable from the remainder of the flower pot cover.

49. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 44, further comprising a skirt extending from the base portion, and wherein the sleeve portion is connected to the skirt.

50. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 49, wherein the sleeve portion is detachable from the skirt.

51. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 49, further comprising a detaching element for detaching the sleeve portion from the skirt.

52. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38, wherein the flower pot cover is formed from at least one process selected from a group comprising a thermoformed process, an injection molding process, a blow molding process, a casting process, a stamping process, an extrusion process, a vacuum formed process, and combinations thereof.

53. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38 wherein the sidewall is flexible and shape-sustaining.

54. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38 wherein the sidewall is semi-rigid.

55. (Original) The flower pot cover of claim 38 wherein the sidewall is rigid.

56. (Currently Amended) A decorative covering for a floral grouping, comprising:

a decorative cover for a floral grouping, wherein the decorative cover has a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the graphic image is visible on at least a portion of the decorative cover when the floral grouping is disposed within the decorative cover, wherein the graphic image is selected from the group consisting of

a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score,~~ and combinations thereof; and

an item comprising a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the graphic image is identical to the graphic image disposed on the decorative cover, wherein the item is attached to or maintained in close proximity to the decorative cover.

57. (Original) The decorative covering of claim 56 wherein the decorative cover is formed of a sheet of material.

58. (Original) The decorative covering of claim 56 wherein the decorative cover is formed of a sleeve.

59. (Original) The decorative covering of claim 56 wherein the item is selected from the group consisting of a floral card, a floral insert, at least one balloon, a gift card, an occasion card, a candy wrapper, a container of candy, a stuffed animal, a gift container, a frame, instructional or advertising material, and combinations thereof.

60. (Currently Amended) A plant package, comprising:

a decorative cover for a flower pot, wherein the decorative cover has a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the graphic image is visible on at least a portion of the decorative cover when the flower pot is disposed within the decorative cover, wherein the graphic image is selected from the group consisting of a rendering of at least a portion of a masterpiece work of art, a rendering of at least a portion of a work of art of a Great Master, ~~a rendering of at least a portion of a musical score,~~ and combinations thereof; and

an item comprising a graphic image disposed on at least a portion thereof wherein the graphic image is identical to the graphic image disposed on the decorative cover, wherein the item is attached to or maintained in close proximity to the decorative cover.

61. (Original) The plant package of claim 60 wherein the decorative cover is formed of a sheet of material.

62. (Original) The plant package of claim 60 wherein the decorative cover is formed of a sleeve.

63. (Original) The plant package of claim 60 wherein the item is selected from the group consisting of a floral card, a floral insert, at least one balloon, a gift card, an occasion card, a candy wrapper, a container of candy, a stuffed animal, a gift container, a frame, instructional or advertising material, and combinations thereof.